

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE.

Mysore City Improvement Trust Board.

READ—

Government Order No. 4168-79—L. F. 36-02, dated 18th September 1902, appointing an Improvement Committee for submitting proposals for the improvement of the City of Mysore.

2. The City of Mysore Improvement Regulation III of 1903.

3. Administration Reports of the Mysore City Improvement Trust Board from 1903-04 to 1917-18.

4. Note dated 27th April 1910, drawn up by the Chief Engineer on the drainage of the Mysore City.

5. Government Order No. 6831-5—Ml. 136-11-7, dated 21st March 1912, prescribing a comprehensive programme of works to be carried out by the Trust Board from 1911-12 to 1918-19.

6. Government Order No. 3702-9—Ml. 163-14-1, dated 6th November 1914, prescribing a programme of works to be carried out in the immediate future for the improvement of Mysore City.

7. Government Order No. 221-5—Ml. 51-14-63, dated 12th July 1915, passing orders regarding the execution of certain improvement works by the Trust Board and raising the annual grant to the Trust Board to Rs. 3½ lakhs.

8. Government Order No. 5905-10—Ml. 95-17-5, dated 20th April 1918, raising the annual grant to the Trust Board, to Rs. 4½ lakhs for five years from 1918-19, and suggesting the desirability of financing productive works by raising loans.

9. Government Order No. 7415-7—Ml. 95-17-11, dated 14th December 1918, approving of a modified programme of non-productive works of the Trust Board for five years from 1918-19.

10. Notes by the President, Mysore City Municipal Council, on certain sanitary defects in the Mysore City and certain constructional defects in the new Devaraj Market.

Order No. R. 6822-8—Ml. 142-19-1, dated 11th December 1919.

In Government Order No. 5905-10—Ml. 95-17-5, dated 20th April 1918, the needs of the Trust Board in the near future were comprehensively considered and an increased grant of Rs. 4½ lakhs per annum was sanctioned having regard to the increased activities of the Board. With a view to secure the systematic and speedy execution of the necessary works, a quinquennial programme was also prescribed in Government Order No. 7415-7—Ml. 95-17-11, dated the 14th December 1918. The line of action defined in the earlier order above referred to has resulted in bringing to the notice of Government certain important questions of a far reaching character in regard to both productive and non-productive works—a classification for the first time introduced in the order of April 1918, that it is again necessary to clearly indicate the lines on which the Trust Board should carry on its future programme. Before doing this, however, Government consider that it would be advantageous to review the work of the Trust Board, since the commencement up to date and proceed to do so accordingly.

2. *Prior to the Trust Board.*—The insanitary condition of the City, prior to the outbreak of the epidemic of plague in 1898, had engaged the attention of Government and several improvement works had been planned and carried out by a Special Sanitary Division (under Mr. Standish Lee), established by the late Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer. The chief works executed by the Sanitary Division were the following :—

(a) Filling up of a portion of Purnaiya's Nalla.

(b) Sewerage of the Fort and the Palace.

(c) Filling up of the ditch round the Fort and converting it into a park.

(d) Laying out of the Chamarajpuram Extension.

(e) Water-supply to the City.

A sum of Rs. 5·7 lakhs had thus been spent on such works between the years 1892 and 1903.

3. *Improvement Committee.*—The frequent and virulent epidemic of plague in the City since it first appeared in the State in 1898, necessitated the investigation of the question of devising a complete scheme for systematically and thoroughly improving the City. The Government in their Order No. 4168-79—L. F. 36-02, dated 18th September 1902, accordingly constituted an Improvement Committee with the Chief Engineer as Chairman to prepare schemes on comprehensive lines for the improvement of the slums of the City, for the provision of a suitable drainage scheme and for housing the displaced population. The Committee after careful and long deliberation matured a number of projects showing in detail the improvements to be effected in different parts of the City. These projects which were estimated to cost about Rs. 23 lakhs comprised the following.

- (1) The formation of new and the alteration of existing streets, and the creation of open spaces with the object of removing congestion and securing more light and ventilation.
- (2) The provision of a proper drainage system in place of the ill-graded and inefficient V-shaped slabbed drains.
- (3) The removal of insanitary blocks.
- (4) The provision of dust-bins and public latrines for better sanitation.
- (5) The design of various types of buildings on cheap and sanitary lines for such of the poor and working classes as would be displaced in the execution of the schemes.
- (6) The formation of extensions.

4. *The Trust Board.*—To mature these schemes and to carry out the improvements and to administer the properties acquired a special agency with a legal status was brought into existence under the Mysore City Improvement Regulation of 1903, in the latter part of the year. The Trust Board accordingly commenced their duties in the early part of 1904 and directed their efforts mainly to carrying out the projects matured by the Improvement Committee of 1902. Though the drainage programme and the acquisition of properties received the greater portion of the attention and finances of the Trust Board, a few other works of public convenience were added to these schemes from time to time and by the year 1911-12, the Trust Board had 42 works of various kinds on their programme estimated to cost about Rs. 27 lakhs, of which works to the extent of Rs. 23·3 lakhs had been carried out. It is, however, noted that increase over the original estimate was chiefly contributed by the amount of Rs. 6·12 lakhs required for and Rs. 5·8 lakhs spent on acquisition of properties in the Fort area. This may be regarded as the first period of the Board's activities.

5. In March 1912 a new order of things was introduced. In a note prepared in April 1910, the then Chief Engineer Mr. (now Sir) M. Visvesvaraya brought to the notice of Government certain defects under the drainage scheme carried out so far and urged the need for a revised scheme of underground sewerage and drains suited to conditions prevalent in other Indian Cities for this City also. A revised scheme of drainage estimated to cost Rs. 14·69 lakhs was accordingly prepared and submitted to Government, along with a comprehensive programme for 8 years commencing with 1911-12. This programme involving an expenditure of Rs. 23·67 lakhs was sanctioned by Government in their Order No. 6831-5—Ml. 136-11-7, dated 21st March 1912. Under this programme also prominence was given to the sanitary needs of the City, while works of public utility came next. By the year 1915, however, ideas regarding the future development of the City not only on sanitary lines but on aesthetic considerations also were in evidence, and the late Dewan, Sir M. Visvesvaraya after a personal inspection of the City prescribed in Government Order No. 3702-9—Ml. 163-14-1, dated 6th November 1914, a further programme of works to be undertaken by the Trust Board. Besides these two comprehensive programmes, several other works received sanction of Government separately and individually, from time to time, so that by the year 1917-18 the requirements of the Trust Board had far exceeded the limitations imposed under the programme of March 1912, while the programme itself had not been carried out to the extent anticipated. A review of the work done, and remaining to be done prepared in the latter part of 1917, disclosed that the total number of works the Trust Board had been required to attend to was 66 at an estimated cost of Rs. 56·89 lakhs. The following classification of works contained in one of the

letters of the Chairman indicated the extent to which and the directions in which, the activities of the Trust Board had developed :—

Works	No.	Estimated cost	Expenditure incurred up to end of 1916-17
		Rs.	Rs.
1. Sewerage and drainage works ...	15	18,32,844	6,93,737
2. Works of public convenience or attractions of the City ...	30	6,12,317	2,16,703
3. Schemes for acquisition of properties ...	11	27,43,825	16,96,560
4. Works for the expansion of the City ...	4	4,40,010	41,732
5. House building scheme ...	1	30,429	12,155
6. Miscellaneous improvement works ...	5	29,856	14,381

Though a total grant of Rs. 44.44 lakhs had been made to the Trust Board since the commencement up to the end of 1916-17, there still remained works of various classes to be carried out at a cost of about Rs. 30 lakhs. These together with the project relating to the acquisition of all properties in the Fort at an outlay of over Rs. 11 lakhs, required in all nearly Rs. 42 lakhs exclusive of establishment charges. As the whole amount required could not be made available out of State Funds and with a view to secure the completion of the works within a reasonable time, the works were divided in the order of April 1918, into two classes productive and non-productive, the former to be financed by means of loans and the latter out of the annual State Grant which was increased to Rs. 4½ lakhs.

I.—NON-PRODUCTIVE WORKS.

6. The main items that come under this head are the drainage and sewerage works, the acquisition of properties, and other works adding to the public convenience or the attractions of the City.

7. (a) *Drainage and sewerage works.*—These works form one of the older items on the programme of the Trust Board operations. A great deal had been done prior to 1912, in completing the projects planned by the Committee appointed in 1902, and a sum of Rs. 7.45 lakhs had been spent by the time the new scheme of underground sewerage and drains was introduced. The total estimated amount required under the new scheme for all sewerage and drainage works is Rs. 18.32 lakhs of which works to the extent of Rs. 8.84 lakhs have already been carried out. A large portion of the work thus remains incomplete and greater attention seems to be called for for expediting their completion. Besides the incomplete works which should not be postponed long the President of the Municipal Council has brought to the notice of Government certain defects in the present drainage arrangements of the City requiring early removal. The note of the President is printed as Annexure No. II to this order. Government agree that the following suggestions made by the President require to be attended to without further loss of time:—

(a) Accumulated debris and filth from all parts of the City must be immediately removed.

(b) Narrow and blind lanes should be opened out.

(c) Departmental conservancy should be introduced and all latrines in houses should be caused to be built of the daily conservable type, the existing pit system being done away with.

(d) Drainage operations must be first commenced and thoroughly completed in the congested central parts of the City.

(e) House connections must be of a model type.

(f) The 'U' shaped cement drains wherever their beds and sides have broken must be immediately put into order, and

(g) sufficient staff should be employed solely to attend to house connections and drains.

The Chairman is requested to study these requirements and submit proposals for giving effect to the suggestions made above in consultation with the Municipal Council.

8. (b) *Acquisition of properties.*—The expenditure under this head has grown beyond expectations. When the Trust Board operations were first started, it was

expected that a sum of Rs. 12.35 lakhs would meet the needs of the Board in this direction. But the needs of the City have grown considerably since then and the total amount spent under this head amounts to Rs. 17.24 lakhs against the estimate of Rs. 27.42 lakhs required for 7,611 properties. Deducting from this estimate the amount of Rs. 2.96 lakhs required for the Devaraj Market square improvements a work now treated as productive, there remain 1,923 properties to be acquired at a cost of about Rs. 7.26 lakhs. As only a provision of Rs. 2.96 lakhs has been made in the quinquennial programme prescribed in December last this work will be one of the items that will remain incomplete at the end of 1922-23. Government, however, consider that this is inevitable, but they hope that with the completion of all the Fort improvements during the next five years, funds will be set free for vigorously pushing it on to an early settlement. The acquisition of properties in the Fort area has also received due consideration of Government, since 1908-09, when a scheme of improvements at a cost of Rs. 6.12 lakhs was projected. Additional schemes were also sanctioned in subsequent years. Out of the total estimate of Rs. 7.80 lakhs for these improvements an expenditure of Rs. 4.28 lakhs had been incurred up to the end of 1917-18. When the revised policy of Government was laid down in the order of April 1918, the Fort area came in for special treatment, and a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs annually has been earmarked out of the grant for the Trust Board for carrying out a comprehensive scheme of improvements therein. The scheme itself estimated to cost about 11.59 lakhs was sanctioned in G. O. 8286-9—ML. 24-15-135, dated 29th June 1918, and included the acquisition of all private houses in the Fort. With the facilities now afforded, the Government expect that the question of Fort improvements will have been satisfactorily settled before the close of the quinquennium ending with 1922-23.

9. (c) *Other works*.—Thirty-seven works of various kinds calculated to improve the utilitarian and aesthetic aspects of the City and estimated to cost Rs. 5.37 lakhs have been undertaken by the Board from time to time. An outlay of Rs. 2.26 lakhs has been incurred on them so far. The more important of the works remaining incomplete are those relating to the improvements to the Devaraj Market, the construction of Municipal Office Buildings, laying out Bamboo Bazaar grounds and a few others. All these improvements have been duly considered in the quinquennial programme sanctioned in December 1918, and are expected to be completed before the year 1922-23. But in a note of his on "the constructional defects of the Devaraja Market", printed as Annexure No. I to this order—the President has brought to the notice of Government the urgent need for effecting certain improvements suggested by him in order to make the stalls convenient, nice-looking, sanitary and rodent-proof. Government observe that before further work is carried out on the scheme, the removal of these defects should be attended to. As regards the construction of the Municipal Office Buildings, Government consider that it is a work of some magnitude and having regard to the insufficiency of funds at the disposal of the Board as also the likelihood of the revised estimates considerably exceeding the original estimates, it is necessary that the Municipal Council should contribute a larger share towards the cost of the buildings. The President of the Municipal Council is requested to submit in consultation with the Municipal Council suitable proposals in the matter.

10. *Extensions*.—The expansion of the City by means of extensions was one of the earliest improvements contemplated by the Board, as the result of whose activities 4,193 sites were formed and made available for building purposes up to the end of 1917-18 in the several extensions as noted below:—

Chamundi Extension	.. 1,050
Dodda Holagere Extension	.. 974
Idga New Extension	.. 584
Weavers' Lines Extension	.. 200
Jalapuri Extension	.. 198
Idga Old Extension	.. 182
Lakshmipuram Extension	.. 43
Bakshibasappaji Urs' Garden Extension	.. 66
Additional sites in minor extensions	.. 13
Inside the City out of acquired portion	.. 883

Total 4,193

Up to the end of June 1918, 4,153 houses were acquired in all by the Trust Board and the accounts show that during this period only 3,215 new houses have been constructed in the extensions and the City. It is therefore necessary that in order to locate the displaced population and prevent overcrowding at least 1,000 houses have to be constructed and more sites in new extensions should be laid out in order to provide for the population still to be displaced by the operations of the Trust Board in the near future and also to meet the growing requirements of the City.

11. *Productive works.*—The following works have been classed as productive works to be financed either by loans granted by Government or by loans raised in the open markets:—

	Rs.
(a) Improvement of Devaraj Market Square	 4,48,000
(b) Scheme for housing the poor, including loans	 4,06,000
(c) Laying out Vontikoppal Extension	 3,00,000
Total	 11,54,000

The Trust Board applied for a loan of Rs. 10 lakhs from Government during the next five years to finance these works ; but subsequently they modified their request by applying for a loan of only 5 lakhs of rupees to attend to items which are of immediate importance, the improvements to the Devaraj Market Square being deferred for the present. Government regret that under the existing conditions it will not be possible for them to advance the loan. They, however, realise that the question of housing the poor and the middle classes is a matter which calls for urgent attention and some satisfactory solution of the problem should be arrived at in the near future. The raising of a loan in the open market would perhaps be one of the modes by which this question may be satisfactorily settled ; but it is seen that under the existing Regulation the Board have no power to borrow funds. Nor is it desirable that the Board should enter into financial arrangements which would require a number of years for adjustment. Government, therefore, consider that it would be a more satisfactory procedure if the Municipal Council can borrow the required amount at a reasonable rate of interest to be guaranteed by Government and advance it to the Trust Board for affording relief to the displaced population in the shape of house building loans and other necessary measures. It has been suggested that though a loan may have to be raised in the open market at a high rate of interest the Board may charge a lower rate of interest on the advances made by them, the loss sustained in this connection being borne by the Government. Government will be prepared to consider favourably any workable scheme on the lines indicated above and to make good the loss arising in the payment of interest to the debenture holders. This question is one in which both the Municipal Council and the Trust Board should co-operate and the Government earnestly hope that a mutual understanding will be arrived at by these bodies in this matter at a very early date.

12. *General.*—The Trust Board have been carrying on their operations for a little over fifteen years and have received a grant of about 47 lakhs from State Funds, which has been supplemented by another sum of six lakhs, the sale proceeds of properties sold, raising thus the total receipts to Rs. 53 lakhs of which the Board have incurred an expenditure of Rs. 52 lakhs. Still it cannot be said that the sanitary condition is all that may be desired. The sewage and drainage works are not yet complete and sufficient attention has not been paid to house connections and flushing system. The important question of how to maintain the completed works in efficient condition and prevent them from falling into disrepair awaits solution. Government are glad to note that the Trust Board have, from the beginning directed their attention to the problem of housing the poor but the progress made so far judged from the number of houses built (105) is not commensurate with the needs of the City. The Chairman is accordingly requested to revise the programme sanctioned in December 1918 in the light of the above observations and resubmit the same at an early date.

13. *Audit of accounts.*—The accounts of the Trust Board have not been regularly audited. Since the commencement of the Trust Board operations the accounts have been audited only thrice. Sufficient attention is not being paid to the collection of money due to the Board. Proper Capital and Revenue Accounts should be main-

tained and the accounts audited half-yearly. The Comptroller is requested to arrange for such half-yearly audits. Instances have also come to the notice of the Government where the properties and houses acquired years ago have been allowed to remain in the possession of the previous owners long after their acquisition. Greater scrutiny and check in these matters are absolutely necessary. The Trust Board should have a proper inspecting staff to look after their properties and their future disposal.

14. As regards the finances of the Trust Board, Government observe that it will not be possible to increase the State grant in the near future, but they are confident that, should the loan scheme be satisfactorily launched with the co-operation of the Municipal Council, there will be great scope for a systematic and energetic programme being carried out to satisfaction.

B. RAMASWAMIYA,
Secy. to Govt., Rev. Dept.

To—The Chairman, City Improvement Trust Board, Mysore.
The President, City Municipal Council, Mysore.
The Chief Engineer in Mysore.
The Comptroller to Government.
The Huzur Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja.
The Deputy Commissioner, Mysore District.
The Sanitary Commissioner in Mysore.

PRESS TABLE.

Exd.—C. R.

ANNEXURE I.

NOTE ON CERTAIN CONSTRUCTIONAL DEFECTS IN THE NEW DEVARAJ MARKET.

I. The platforms for the stalls.

(1) *The first step.*—This is far too high. Old people cannot climb it with safety. Some people in trying to climb it have hurt themselves.

Arrangements must therefore be made to put up an intermediate step. A type of a step in the form of a bench between the cellar doors, has been fixed for one of the stalls, and the rest of them should be fixed as quickly as possible to avert danger and blocking the passage as is now done in their absence.

(2) *The surface of the steps of the platforms.*—The surface is paved with rough burnt stones. When this important market was being designed on sanitary grounds it was specifically laid down that the stones should be well dressed. These, however, not having been sufficiently finely dressed, their surface is very rough and pitted, allowing accumulation of dirt and filth which cannot be easily swept or washed out. Further, they not having been evenly laid, when looked at from one end of the stall, the surface looks undulating and is unsightly.

(3) *The jointing between the slabs.*—The edges and ends of these slabs not having been properly dressed, two adjoining slabs do not approximate to each other. The result is crevices and gaps. These have been filled up with a very inferior kind of mortar which has already given way in many places leaving unsightly and insanitary gaps which cannot be satisfactorily closed unless the slabs are properly dressed.

(4) *The cellars.*—There is one cellar under each stall. This cellar has a door in front and three port-holes on the top. These ports are evidently intended to let bad air out from the stalls.

It is not clear how they will do this. If bad air has to get out, it has to be driven out by a blast of fresh air from below. The cellar doors when shut at nights and at other times, not having been provided with any inlets for fresh air, foul air from the cellars cannot get out. There is thus no facility for ventilation of the cellars but it seems as though in these port-holes every facility has been provided for admitting reptiles and rodents into the cellars. It can be imagined how damaging to stall holder's articles and how dangerous to the visitors and stall-holders in plague seasons these non-rodent proof cellars are.

The walls of the cellars not having been built of sound and strong materials, rodents have already burrowed through them into the cellars. What with the unprotected port-holes and the rat burrows through the walls, there is no safety either to property or life of the vendor and the visitor.

The doors of the cellars are of unseasoned wood which have already warped and do not fit well. Hooks or bolts should be provided inside so that they may be tightly shut to keep out rodents, etc.

Again the flooring of the cellars is lower than the level of the passage in front. The result is, the cellar washings cannot possibly be drained out.

The cellars therefore require improvement. They should be provided with facilities for ventilation and they should be rat proof.

It is suggested that the doors of the cellars be perforated and lined inside with fine wire netting. These will allow fresh air to get in and at the same time keep out rodents. Similarly the portholes should be protected inside by fine wire netting. A better kind of durable and hard material should be used for plastering the walls of the cellars, to prevent rodents from burrowing. All the doors should be made to fit well.

To enable thorough washing of the floors of the cellars, they should be laid at a higher level than the passage in front, with a gentle gradient towards the door and with a small outlet under the door sill.

II. *The iron pillars supporting the roof.*—These have not been fixed properly with bolts and nuts at their feet, nor with their full compliment at their crown. These require to be attended to.

III. *The storm water drains.*—These have been closed over by slabs. The sides of these slabs not having been properly dressed, the adjoining surfaces do not approximate to each other. The result is earth and sand with lot of sweepings and rubbish get through the crevices and gradually choke up the drain. If the slab covering of the drain is not immediately mended, earth and sand and other market debris will keep constantly getting into the drain and eventually lead to obstinate chokage and trouble necessitating constant ripping open of the drain—by no means an easy and cheap task. It is already well-nigh getting choked up.

It is therefore necessary that these covering slabs are laid properly without any crevices between them.

IV. The following urgent improvements are therefore needed to make the market and stalls convenient, nice looking, sanitary and rodent proof:—

- (1) An intermediate step for each stall.
- (2) Even laying of properly dressed slabs, on the surface of the platforms.
- (3) Filling in of all gaps and crevices with proper hard and sound materials.
- (4) Providing ventilation facilities for the cellars and making them rodent proof by perforations in the cellar doors and lining the doors and port-holes inside with fine wire netting, and getting the doors to fit well.
- (5) Raising and properly grading the floors of the cellars to facilitate their washing.
- (6) Cementing the cellar walls particularly the angles between the walls and the floor with some hard setting cement, to prevent rodents from burrowing into them.
- (7) Fitting the iron pillars with proper bolts and nuts.
- (8) Properly approximating the adjoining surfaces of the covering slabs over the storm water drains.

ANNEXURE II.

NOTE ON "CERTAIN SANITARY DEFECTS IN THE CITY OF MYSORE."

I. *Debris and refuse.*—In various parts of the City, a large number of houses have been demolished and new roads and lanes have been opened. Some of these lanes have not been completely opened out and formed; some are very narrow and some have been left blind. Masses of debris and mounds of earth from demolished buildings lie in heaps in these unformed and unfinished roads and lanes, and in laying down the underground sewers these roads and lanes are further much damaged and mounds of earth are allowed to lie on them unremoved.

These areas besides being unsightly offer good cover to nuisance of all sorts; and to conserve them is a very difficult matter. Traffic in them is impossible or risky. Where the debris and refuse lie against the walls of several unfortunate houses, there are constant and bitter complaints of dampness and damage to properties.

II. *In accessibility and difficulties for house scavenging.*—A large number of houses in congested parts have no access for the removal of nightsoil and many have no places for latrines in the premises. In areas where sewers have been laid, latrines on the flush system cannot be introduced for want of sufficient water. The conservable houses are now therefore being conserved on the dry system. There being no Municipal house scavenging system, the Municipal sweepers working as private scavengers very often take advantage of the debris-heaps, holes and crevices in them, narrow blind lanes and dust-bins for depositing the nightsoil. The result is intolerable nuisance and increasing unhealthiness to the localities.

It is therefore essential that departmental conservancy of houses should be introduced and arrangements made to satisfactorily dispose of the nightsoil by trenching, till the flush system comes to be generally adopted.

These defects, incidental to incomplete works, accentuated by non-removal of accumulated debris and filth, are the more glaring particularly in Mandi and Lashkar Mohallas where the poor, especially the Muslim poor live. It is here that plague epidemics start. It is here that consumption is on the increase. It is here, as a result of lowering of the human vitality, that chronic ill-health prevails and mortality is high. And all this, despite all that has been done to open the areas out and improve them, which after all has only been partial.

It is therefore of the utmost importance and urgent necessity that steps should be immediately taken to remedy or remove these defects both from the sanitary and aesthetic points of view. In some cases acquisition proceedings have further to be proceeded with, to widen or run through the narrow or blind lanes and also to open out new lanes for giving access to conserve houses which now lack such facility.

III. 1. *Drainage*.—The underground pipe system-sewers. These have been laid in the greater part of the City. They are ultimately intended to serve as sewers proper, when the latrines on the flush system are introduced. At present they carry only waste and slop water from houses and washings from the latrines, and not all houses are connected with these sewers by house connections.

The arrangement of the house connections where effected, is theoretically sound. But in the practical working, these connections have been a source of great nuisance to the Municipality and much more to the house-holders. The circular grating either inside the house or at the house end of the gully trap gets choked up very often. If the one inside gets choked up, the water backs up and gives cause for constant complaint. If the house end of the gully gets choked up, there is overflow from the cistern and the water gets into the surface drain and causes nuisance. Several factors contribute to this chokeage.

(1) *The habits of the people*.—They use ash, tamarind, charcoal, sand, earth, straw, cocoanut-fibre, etc., for washing their utensils, etc. These, as also other solid matter get to the mouth of the gratings and choke them up. It has been found, that a few tamarind seeds and pebbles and pieces of charcoal with a little straw or hair, have been enough to cause chokeage. The people's sentiments do not permit of their touching the gratings to clear the chokeage. The result is loud complaints of nuisance and noxious gas, etc.

(ii) *Mischief by street children*.—The children playing about the streets and lanes very often playfully drop sand, earth and stones into the house connection cisterns. These choke up the grating at the house end of the gully and some sand and pebbles get through the grating and choke up the gully trap as well. The result is overflow in the cistern. If there is a surface drain the overflow flows in it. In several places, e.g., near the Technical Institute—there are no surface drains and the whole water overflows on the road, causing nuisance and unsightly slush.

(iii) Again, all the houses abutting on a lane or road containing a sewer have not been given house connections. The result is that the unconnected houses lead their filthy water into surface drain and cause nuisance. Very little advantage therefore accrues, from such partial house connections, to the health of the street. As a result of constant chokeages and unconnected houses, the surface drains do receive foul water and sillage which are a source of dangerous nuisance to the locality.

2. *Surface drains*.—The cement U-shaped drains. These have been built by the Trust Board in over half the portion of the City. These vary in size in different streets according to the water they are calculated to carry. In some places, as in Mandi and Lashkar Mohallas in particular, great many of these have practically disappeared. All that remains of what once were drains are a few pebbles embedded in concrete. In some places where generally they appear sound, their bottoms have broken, causing stagnation of water and nuisance as in the main Nazarbada road and the Bazaar road in Ittigegud.

In the early days of the Trust Board, when the Engineers believed in the combined drainage system which carried both storm water and sewage in the same pipe, silt traps were constructed on the U-shaped cement drains to prevent road silt getting into the sewers. Later, this combined system having been given up and the "separate" system introduced, these silt traps had no functions to perform. They have however been left as they are. They have now become breeders of mosquitoes and stagnant pools of filthy water. They are no more than stink spots on the surface drains.

3. *The open stone box drains*.—These, built in pre-Trust Board days to carry off all water, i.e., household waste and storm waters, still continue to do the same functions though the operations of Trust Board have been in existence, for some years.

These drains have slab bottoms and rough stone sides. The slabs have sunk in places and the gradients, not being steep enough, there is stagnation of filthy water and soakage into sub-soil. The adjoining house owners raise a piteous wail and loudly complain of foul smell, dampness and ill-health.

The conservancy department find it absolutely impossible to conserve these satisfactorily, owing to the constant flow of foul sullage and sewage from the adjoining houses which have all not been given house connections, and owing also to the irregularity in the beds and sides of the drains.

4. A few more of the other drawbacks are—

- (i) Some house connections have no overflow pipes.
- (ii) The external openings of certain overflow pipes project beyond the cistern. When there is chokage, foul water getting into the overflow pipe, instead of dropping either into the cistern or the surface drain, flows on the road. Some overflow pipes have broken external ends. One would have thought that the overflow pipe should be a curved pipe comfortably hanging over the cistern in an unobstructive fashion. In many places this is not so.
- (iii) In Fort, in the rear of Sirdar Kantharaj Ursu's house it was recently accidentally found that a pipe emerging from a house connection cistern had holes in three places which had been covered with pieces of pot tiles. Within a foot or so of this punctured pipe ran the drinking water pipe which had a small hole and a leaky joint. Both the sewer pipe and the water pipe with free leakages and contamination were buried underground. How dreadful, consequences in this case might have been, one shudders to think of.

Such are some of the present defects in the drainage arrangements in the City.

These defects do not admit of an adequate return in Health for the huge amounts spent on drainage works.

IV. *Communal Arrangements.*—There are several other communal problems which have still to be tackled if anything like comfort and convenience to the people have to be provided, e.g., provision of public latrines, urinals, bathing and washing places, etc. These depend on the water-supply. The present supply not being enough these problems have been set aside. Some public latrines on the flush system were constructed by the Trust Board at some cost; sufficient water not being available, these have all been closed down and stand idle. There not being sufficient public latrines which can be availed of by the people, particularly of congested areas, the surface drains and maidans, hollows and crevices amongst the debris and mounds of earth in lanes and roads, are all freely being resorted to for nature's purposes. Such habits of the helpless people, make the conservancy work very heavy; so much so that even a staff of 400 sweepers and scavengers working in the City cannot cope with the work of keeping the constantly fouled drains and maidans, etc., clean. The frequent chokages of house connections, the stagnation of water and filth in the broken U-shaped drains and the silt traps in them and the messy box drains, do not render the work of the conservancy staff any, the easier.

If, therefore, the sanitation of the City and the health of the people are to be improved at all the existing drainage defects must early be remedied and some public sanitary conveniences in the shape of public urinals, latrines, washing and bathing places promptly provided ere long.

V. *Suggestion.*—The following are suggestions for remedying the existing defects:—

- (1) Accumulated debris and filth from all parts of the City must be immediately removed.
- (2) Narrow and blind lanes should be opened out.
- (3) Departmental conservancy should be introduced in the City and all latrines caused to be built of the daily conservable type, the existing pits being done away with.
- (4) The drainage operations must be first commenced and thoroughly completed in the congested central parts of the City.
- (5) The house connections must be of a model type, and not as they are at present.
- (6) The U-shaped cement drains wherever their beds and sides have broken, must be immediately put into order.
- (7) Sufficient staff should be employed solely to attend to house connections and drains.

If these defects are not remedied early, things would become worse and ill-health would be perpetuated.

Some combined measures on a clear understanding and active co-operation between the City Municipal Council and the Improvement Trust Board, with effective co-ordination of their resources, are necessary to remedy these evils. A complete survey of the existing easily remediable defects should be taken and a definite programme of all essential sanitary works prepared and vigorously worked out with specific allotments earmarked for the same.

It is also evident that the Municipal Council by itself will not be able to cope with the requirements partly inherent and partly due to the late plague and subsequent Trust Board operations which, commenced under stress of circumstances and financial straits, have now to be completed if the City is to derive the benefits of the large expenditure hitherto ungrudgingly incurred by the State.

MYSORE DISTRICT.

Notification No. D² Dis. 394—L. B. 1919-20, dated January 1920.

Mr. B. P. Nanjundiah, son of Mr. Parameswariah of Basaral village, Mandya Taluk, is declared to have been elected as a member of the Basaral Village Panchayet in the Mandya Taluk, in lieu of Mr. Parameswariah, deceased.

H. RANGASWAMY IYENGAR,
For *Deputy Commissioner*.